

# The Watauga Democrat.

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DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BOONE, AND WATAUGA COUNTY.

\$1.00 Per Year

VOL. XXXII.

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C. THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24, 1921.

NO 18.

## REMINISCENCES.

### Personal Recollections of a Trip to Texas in Pioneer Days, and Some Incidents in Cow Boy Life in the West.

(By L. N. Perkins.)

Soon after the Christmas holidays were over I began to think about getting employment of some kind in order to replenish my stock of money, which was almost exhausted.

I had always worked on the farm, but there was not very much farm work done at that season of the year. My uncle with whom I had made my home, advised me to go to town. There was a man by the name of Frank Adams who lived in Ft. Worth, who, with his brother, owned a herd of cattle estimated at 7,000 or 8,000 head. He thought that Adams would give me employment during the winter, and when spring came and the cattle business up there would be plenty of work to do.

The young men who were raised in the cattle section of Texas did not work much at anything but the cattle business, and during the winter they did not do much but hunt and sport about. Those who owned farms would try to raise enough wheat for home consumption and depend on cattle for their money crop.

The cattle then were the long horned variety and were uniform in size and color, and were not called beef cattle until they were four years old. The price of a beef steer was \$20. They were not legal tender by law, but custom made it so if a man owed you \$20, a beef steer paid the debt.

I had no trouble getting work, the price paid being \$15 per month until April 1st, when my wages were to be raised. The herd of cattle belonging to the Adams brothers was ranged in Erath county, about one hundred miles west of Ft. Worth, and during the branding and gathering season they worked ten or twelve cowboys, but during the winter they were left to take care of themselves while the cow boys had a good time at home. The Indians were very troublesome at that time, and about 50 miles west of Fort Worth you were in the danger zone, and the cow boys all went well armed. It was considered unsafe to travel alone so they usually went in squads of a dozen or more. The old settlers in that portion of Texas seemed to think that Texas was an independent nationality.

In conversation they would invariably speak of Texas, and the States. If a new arrival came into the county, he would be spoken of as coming from the States and if he did not understand the Texas customs he would be designated as "green from the States," and if you wanted to make an old Texan fighting mad, just insinuate that he was "green from the States." It was considered fine sport for the cow boys to give a new man an Indian scare, and they succeeded in scaring one or two very badly, causing them to quit the cow boy business and seek other employment. But the leaders in that business "caught a tartar in the person of a tall, awkward looking young man from the State of Illinois, who hired to the Adams brothers to work at the cattle business. They at once set him down as 'green from the States,' and decided to go for him in fine shape. So, after he had learned a little about the business, one day they put him out on herd, leaving him by himself with instruc-

tions to keep a sharp lookout for Indians; showed him the direction they would come; that they invariably wore blankets, traveled single file, etc., and then they disappeared, disguised themselves as Indians and in an hour's time they came riding in a brisk trot in the direction they had told him the Indians would likely come. They were in full view of him for some distance before he discovered them, but when they were about three hundred yards from him he saw them and instead of taking to his heels as they expected he would, he planted himself and deliberately raised his gun and fired at the leader, the ball striking him and breaking an arm, and was preparing to shoot again, but they instantly threw off their disguise and succeeded in getting him to see that they were not Indians. He did not shoot the second time and if he had he would likely have killed one of them. The young man that he shot had a close call anyway, as it was hot weather in the month of July, and the wound was a bad one. So that broke up the Indian business for the summer.

As before stated Fort Worth at that time was a small town, the county seat of Tarrant county, and was situated on a bluff on the south side of the West Fork of Trinity River. It was originally built as a fort by old General Worth, and was used as a protection against the Comanche Indians. It had a stone court house, two saloons, three or four stores with a population, perhaps, of two hundred. The merchants had their goods hauled a distance of two hundred miles, from Miligan, a place somewhere in Southern Texas. The hauling was done in the summer and fall by teams of oxen, and it usually took a month or six weeks to make the round trip, as they grazed their stock all the distance. The teams varied from five to twelve yoke. One man would handle five yoke all right, but with more than that there were usually two drivers. I remember seeing one wagon loaded with hides, drawn by 24 oxen, and only two drivers. They were taking the hides to market, and would bring back goods. It was nearer to Jerguson, Texas, the head of navigation on Red River, but the roads were not nearly so good, and oxen could not be grazed more than half the distance, as Eastern Texas was heavily timbered. Lumber for building purposes was hauled from that section. There was some timber along the water courses but none considered suitable for sawing for lumber. A great many of the old settlers built homes of logs with hewn puncheons for floors. Some built of stone and about the towns they built what they called concrete, consisting of gravel, lime and sand—no cement. This made a very durable and comfortable house, and was cheaper than lumber that had to be hauled a hundred miles.

(To be continued.)

## NOTICE.

To whom it may concern:

This is to notify all creditors of the Watauga Motor Company that I have sold my entire interest in the Watauga Motor company to W. E. Shipley, who assumes all liabilities of my prorate part of the indebtedness of the firm. All book accounts, or other evidences of indebtedness due the Watauga Motor Company are payable to W. E. Shipley. This Feb. 10, 1921. J. B. TAYLOR.

## ASKING STATE AID FOR ELECTRIC LINE.

Dr. W. P. Shipp, General manager of the Blue Ridge Development Company, is in Raleigh this week in an effort to get the general Assembly to pass an act giving State aid to do the building of the electric railway from Mt. Holly through Hickory to Lenoir, Blowing Rock and Boone, connecting with a line to Jefferson and Ashe county. Dr. Shipp will make every effort to get the general assembly to set a date for a joint hearing of the bill, and he proposes that the several towns and communities through which the proposed road is surveyed, will each send a delegation to Raleigh to appear before the committee.

The company has already surveyed the right of way, and surveyed the line. The cost of construction and equipment has been approximated. Six million dollars, says Dr. Seipp, will build a road and equip it. No stock has been put on the market so far, but people who live along the route of the proposed road are anxious that this step be taken.

The people of Caldwell county are thoroughly interested in this project and look forward to its ultimate construction. This road would open up a section of North Carolina that is now cut off from the State by the barrier of the Blue Ridge. The proposed road, if built, would connect at Boone with the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina railway or points in Tennessee. At Todd, just ten miles from Boone, it would connect with the Virginia-Carolina railroad, a branch of the Norfolk & Western, and would give them an outlet to the Southeast which is so badly needed.

It is not known whether the general assembly will entertain Dr. Shipp's proposition or not. It is believed, however, that they will set a date for the hearing. For years there has been more or less discussion of reclaiming the "lost provinces," and this proposed electric line offers the only means through which the isolated countries may be brought in touch with the State. The State would derive great benefit from this railroad.—The Lenoir News Topic.

## SALE OF PROPERTY FOR TOWN TAXES.

By virtue of a power vested in me as town tax collector of the town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, I will expose to public sale on Monday, March 7th, 1921, the following real estate and town lots, located in the town of Blowing Rock, N. C. Said sale is to satisfy the town of Blowing Rock for taxes due and payable May 1st, 1921. The cost of sale is added in each case.

Mrs. J. F. Anderson	58
Thomas Bryan	70
I. H. Cox	\$3.72
Mrs. S. M. Clark	1.40
W. D. Clark	2.10
N. C. Cordon	7.55
W. H. Edmisten (estate)	1.05
C. Emerson	1.05
Bettie Ford	1.05
Mattie Gwyn	.88
H. F. Kinsman	2.45
M. R. Keller	1.05
S. J. Monague	1.05
Mrs. N. H. Martin	1.75
D. P. McClure	1.75
Mrs. E. D. Mellon	1.04
Mrs. A. R. Peoples	.88
Mrs. M. H. Pinckney	7.35
Scott Perky	5.25
W. J. Palmer	5.85
W. T. Parsons	1.75
C. W. Simson	1.40
Mrs. L. M. Steel	3.15
M. W. Smith	1.75
E. A. Seeman	1.75
H. S. Smith	.50
Bettie Thompson	1.05
J. A. C. Wadsworth	1.40

This January the 10th, 1921.  
JOHN GREEN,  
Town Tax Collector.

## WATCH REPAIRING!

Done under a positive guarantee. Jewelry repaired. Estimates furnished on all mail orders. Satisfaction warranted. Office back of Waruga Bank.  
**J. W. BRYAN, Jeweler,**  
BOONE, N. C.

## RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF ROAD FUND.

Following is an exhibit of the expenditures of the Road Fund since Nov. 1, 1920, the date of C. M. Watson's election to Road Commission:

K F Bauguess, road work	\$162 40
Jake Parlier, work on road	50 00
Cinchfield Fuel Co., coal	445 42
E L Payne, return of truck	50 00
McKinley Redmond, work	10 40
C. and S. Haigler, feed, stock	7 80
Botner Grimes, road work	11 03
Ransom Horton, road work	11 10
George Horton, road work	10 29
Henry Lewis, for hay	10 80
Willard Norris road work	11 25
Ray Campbell	9 00
Bart Norris	11 83
Webster Davis	9 00
Coy Williams	9 65
Howard Bingham	6 00
Amos Watson	7 39
Thos. Younce	7 36
Fred Younce	7 35
Walter Johnson	15 25
C M Watson, car and gas	9 40
J G Norris, house rent	15 00
W H Norris, boarding road hands,	15 90
M S Miller boarding road hands,	4 00
Boone Hd. W. Co., gas and oil	44 17
Rail Road Co., freight	111 20
J C Smith Co., supplies	17 54
W H Greene, sawing lumber	50 20
Lula Ragan, camp supplies	4 92
Lula Ragan, camp supplies	6 50
Nathan Greene, hauling lumber,	12 00
Mrs. Carrie Hodges, cabbage	3 57
W L Coffey, camp supplies	5 10
Johnson Greene, road work	15 00
Lee Cole, road work	8 10
Mrs. J. G Norris, camp supplies.	5 63
S R Stansberry, camp supplies,	1 60
Alex Norris, camp supplies	1 50
J G Norris, Hay	13 50
Russell Vannoy, road work	8 32
M S Miller, timber for bridge,	5 00
W W Norris, work on road,	11 75
Mrs. W H Norris board for road hands,	39 00
Mrs. W H Norris, camp supplies,	11 53
Anderson Idol, work on bridge,	18 80
James A Hodges and Odell Benfield, work on road	6 00
M B Blackburn road work	10 00
Jake Parlier work on road	115 20
Noah Parlier work on road	43 30
Gurnie Watson	41 41
Dan Greer	20 25
Thos. Younce	35 30
G D Watson	14 54
Amos Watson	21 15
W H Norris, road supplies	12 00
Joe Greene, road work	50 25
Claude Watson road supplies	70 18
T S Watson, feed for stock	265 40
Clyde Woodring, road work	3 00
M R Blackburn, feed.	250 00
Mrs. Joe Brown boarding hands	18 80
Claude Watson, wagon	60 00
Fred Younce, road work	25 21
Appie Welborn road work	35 20
Ira Triplett	33 62
Ira Jones	23 10
Spencer Campbell	20 30
Clarence Jone	39 27
Emory Church	6 00
W W Campbell	27 00
L P Greer	16 15
J W Greene, moving shovel	5 00
R L Bingham road work	200 00
R R Johnson, freight	5 04
Watauga County Bank	3 10
Carl Ragan road work	7 50
Ben Woodring	9 50
Ben Woodring	3 00
Will Jones	6 00
A N Church	16 00
G W Younce	77 00
Wilson Greene	15 00
Odell Benfield	12 87
L E Campbell	12 87
A F Hampton keeping camp	100 00
Hattie Rimer, kitchen help	7 50
Isaac Smith, road work	15 75
W G Greene, moving shovel	5 50
Bank of Boone, draft	1 90
G W and G H Brown, hay	52 95
W H Norris services as road commissioner.	53 20
C M Watson feed for teams	25 00
Miss Verna Wilson, postage for road commission	2 00
Mr. Johnson, freight	165 00
G W Younce, road work	35 00
J E Parlier, road work	87 40
F B Hodges, lumber	75 00
Bart Norris, road work	68 50
G P Suddreth	8 10
A H Jones	20 40
Tom Jones	13 40
Ralph Horton	15 50
Coy Williams	16 10
Booner Grimes	20 40

## FORTY LASHES.

It shows how prevalent highway robbery has become and how resentful law-abiding people are against those who practice this atrocious crime that the Senate of the State of Delaware by unanimous vote has passed a bill providing forty lashes on the bare back as partial punishment for a caught and convicted thug. Enlightened thought is all against the enforcement of such penalties, for brutality is never cured by counter brutality, which merely brutalizes further. It is strange that Delaware, of all the states, still has faith in the whipping post as a corrective agency. But the resort to means so drastic, even in Delaware, to fight brutality emphasizes the popular demand that ways be found to put a check upon this cowardly crime of violence which has become so common since the war. It emphasizes the duty of the police to be constantly alert, of the courts to be expeditious in their handling of such cases and justly severe in pronouncing sentence. It emphasizes also the legal profession's duty to society, a duty so large a part of it so frequently mistakes. When we see a smart lawyer wriggling about among the technicalities in the desperate effort to save some thug he knows to be guilty from quick and adequate punishment for his dastardly crime we often think that, if the thug deserved 40 lashes on the bare back, so would the lawyer.—Ohio State Journal.

## NOTICE OF LAND SALE.

Sallie Earp et al, vs. Rebecca Earp and Coy Earp.  
Under and by virtue of an order of the court made in the above entitled action for partitioning the proceeds of said sale in which I, the undersigned, was appointed Commissioner to make said sale, and will expose to sale at the court house door in Boone N. C., on Monday, the 7th day of March, 1921, the same being the first Monday in March, to the highest bidder the following described tract or parcel of land in Watauga township Watauga county, North Carolina, adjoining the lands of T H Taylor, I C Earp, Sr., Richard Walls and others and bounded as follows: Beginning on a small tame cherry tree and running west about 18 poles to a small chestnut, T H Taylor's corner; thence south 1/4 west, 23 poles to a chestnut oak on top of a rock; thence S. 2 1/2 W with I C Earp's, Sr. line crossing the public road and a branch 86 poles to a small white oak on the top of a grave yard hill; thence S. 76d. E 9 1/2 poles to a stake; thence S. 63d. E. with the top of the ridge passing by the grave yard 16 poles to a large chestnut at the corner of the grave yard; thence S. 75d. east 10 poles to a chestnut on top of the grave yard ridge; thence S. 81d. E. to the public road; thence with said road to Isaac N. Minton's beginning corner; thence a north course with said Minton's line to the beginning and containing 30 acres, more or less. The one-half acre containing the Baird's Creek school house is hereby excepted from the above boundary. Terms of sale as follows: One-third cash; one-third on six months; and one-third on twelve months time. This Feb. 4, 1921.  
R. A. ADAMS, Commissioner.

## CITY LIVERY.

I have some of the choicest saddle horses in the county; some splendid driving and draft horses. Day and night service. Stable back of Watauga County Bank. See me at the Critcher Hotel. Phone in both stable and at the Hotel.  
**R. L. HONEYCUTT.**

Geo. Horton	15 80
Norwood Horton, road work	4 50
J E Parlier	50 00
Ida Vannoy	5 00
G W Younce	17 30
Albert Hodges	8 50
Cob Carroll	40 00
J C Ray	14 50
J C Greene	13 65
Nelia Watson	14 00
Mrs. C. L. Watson	35 00
R L Bingham	41 12
Thru Bk. of Boone	\$502 00
Watauga Co. Bk.	\$3,996 55
Balance in Bank	\$7 99
Total expenditures	\$3,996 35

C. D. TAYLOR,  
C. M. WATSON.

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION.

In the District Court of the United States for the Western District of North Carolina, at Asheville.  
United States of America vs. 278,77 acres of land in Watauga county, North Carolina, W. L. Alexander, et al. To the heirs at law of Mrs. Ensor Green, deceased, name unknown. Heirs at law of Mrs. Anna Baldwin, deceased, William Baldwin, Lincoln Simms, Walter Simms, Joseph Green, et al. Heirs at law: Joe Green and wife, — Green; unknown heirs at law of Mrs. Henry Henley, deceased; unknown heirs at law of Ensor Green, deceased; unknown heirs of Lot Greene, deceased; Roby Estes and wife, Fannie Estes; unknown heirs at law of Len Estes, deceased; John Estes and wife, — Estes, or their heirs at law; unknown heirs at law of — — — — — deceased; Virginia E. Maltba and husband, R. W. Maltba.  
And all persons whatsoever owning or claiming to own any estate, lien or interest of any kind or character whatsoever in and to the lands described in the petition in this proceeding. You will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the District Court of the United States for the Western District of North Carolina at Asheville, for the condemnation of certain real estate situate, lying and being in Blowing Rock township, Watauga county, N. Carolina, on the Caldwell and Watauga county line, and known as the W. L. Alexander tract and covered by grants 11726, 563, 1518, 166, 164, 506, 1225, 15793, 10154 and 3570, containing 278.77 acres. All of the said lands have been selected by the Secretary of Agriculture, with the approval of the National Forest Reservation and found necessary for the carrying out an act of Congress of the United States approved March 1, 1911, being chapter 184, page 961, Vol. 36, Stat. at Large, as amended by the Act of August 10, 1912, 37, Stat. 2930, chapter 284.  
And the said non-identical defendants above named, and all other persons who severally own or claim to own any estate, lien or interest of any kind or character in and to the premises described in the petition in said proceeding, name as the parties thereto, you will take notice that they are required to appear in the said district court of the United States for the Western District of North Carolina, at Asheville, on the 14th day of March, 1921, and answer or demur to the petition or complaint in said action, or the plaintiffs will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said petition.  
This notice issued by order of Court, directing that publication be made once a week in The Watauga Democrat. This Jan. 8, 1921.  
R. L. BLAYLOCK,  
Clerk of the District Court of the United States for the Western District of North Carolina.  
Per J. Y. JORDAN, Dept. Clerk

**FOR SALE:** Frost Proof Cabbage plants, 500 \$1.50; 1,000, \$2.50, post paid, 1,000 \$2.00; 10,000, \$1.50 per 1,000. Express collect. Kinsey Wholesale Plant Co., Valdosta, Georgia.

## ENTRY NOTICE, NO. 2554.

State of North Carolina, Watauga County, Office of Entry Taker for said county.  
J. E. Story locates and enters one hundred (100) acres of land on the waters of Buffalo Creek, in Blue Ridge township, beginning on a bunch of chestnut sprouts and a laurel bush, Boone Coffey's corner, and running with the old Bryant line; now owned by the Grandin Lumber Co.; then running with said line to a chestnut tree in said line; then crossing said creek to a black gum corner; then with the old Bryant line to a cucumber tree at the foot of the Rocky Ridge; then up said ridge and various courses with said Boone Coffey's line to the beginning. Entered Dec. 20, 1920.  
H. J. HARDIN, Entry Taker.

**VOLUNTEER AGRICULTURAL LIMESTONE** will help your land. We are prepared to ship to you direct in car lots (minimum car 10 tons) \$3.20 f. o. b. cars Johnson City, Tenn. If interested write East Tenn. Limestone Products Co., P. O. Box 21, Johnson City, Tenn.

**DR. ALFRED W. DULA**  
EYE SPECIALIST  
TO SEE BETTER  
SEE DULA  
17 Years' Experience  
The Best Equipment Obtainable.  
Glasses Fitted Exclusively.  
**MARTIN GLOCK, LENOIR, N. C.**  
If you get it from DULA, it's all right!  
WATCH PAIR FOR DATES.  
Repair Dep't. Box 127 Charlotte, N. C.  
The appearance of the first robin will mark the end of the coal man's robbin'.—Baltimore Sun.